IN THE CLAIMS

1-59   (canceled)

60.   (new)   A method comprising:

receiving a signal containing a code vector;

deriving a constellation of received signal values corresponding to the code vector; and,

generating a reliability factor based upon at least one of the received signal values.

61.   (new)   The method of claim 60 further comprising controlling an equalizer in accordance with the reliability factor.

62.   (new)   The method of claim 60 wherein the one received signal value is a largest of the received signal values.

63.   (new)   The method of claim 60 wherein the generating a reliability factor based upon at least one of the received signal values comprises generating a reliability factor based upon a difference between two of the received signal values.

64. (new) The method of claim 60 wherein the generating a reliability factor based upon at least one of the received signal values comprises generating a reliability factor based upon a difference between a largest and a next largest of the received signal values.

65. (new) The method of claim 64 further comprising controlling an equalizer in accordance with the reliability factor.

66. (new) The method of claim 60 wherein the generating a reliability factor based upon at least one of the received signal values comprises generating a reliability factor based upon a comparison of the one received signal value to a threshold.

67. (new) The method of claim 66 wherein the one received signal value is a largest one of the received signal values.

68. (new) The method of claim 66 wherein the generating a reliability factor based upon a comparison of the one received signal value to a threshold comprises generating the reliability factor only if the one received signal value is greater than the threshold.

69. (new) The method of claim 66 wherein the reliability factor that is generated is dependent upon the magnitude of the one received signal value.

70. (new) The method of claim 60 wherein the received signal values are correlation peaks.

71. (new) The method of claim 60 wherein the generating a reliability factor based upon at least one of the received signal values comprises generating a reliability factor based upon a difference between the squares of two of the received signal values.

72. (new) The method of claim 60 wherein the generating a reliability factor based upon at least one of the received signal values comprises generating a reliability factor based upon a difference between a square of a largest and a square of a next largest of the received signal values.